Remarks/Arguments

The Examiner is thanked for the courteous interview granted Applicant's representative on September 20, 2004. The present Amendment has been prepared to respond to suggestions made by the Examiner during the interview

Claims 1-46 remain pending in the present application. Claims 1, 8, 16-21, 23, 39-44 and 46 have been amended. No claims have been added and no claims have been cancelled. Applicant believes claims 1-46 patentably distinguish over the cited art and are allowable in their present form, and respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection in view of the above amendments and the following comments.

I.   35 U.S.C. § 103, Obviousness

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-15, 20-22, 24-38 and 43-45 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Glass et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,253,204) in view of Jakob Nielsen (U.S. Patent No. 6,658,662). In addition, the Examiner has rejected claims 16-19, 23, 39-42 and 46 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Glass et al. and Jakob Nielson, and further in view of Li et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,631,496). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Rejection of claims 1-15, 20-22, 24-38 and 43-45 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Glass et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,253,204) in view of Jakob Nielsen (U.S. Patent No. 6,658,662).

In rejecting claims 1, 8, 13, 20-22, 24, 31, 36 and 43-45 the Examiner states the following:

> Glass et al discloses a method in a data processing system for pruning search engine indices, comprising:
> - "Receiving a notification from a client browser that a Web page retrieval error occurred for a Web page or that the Web page no longer contains selected keywords" See Fig. 2-3, col. 4, lines 24-col. 5, lines 20. In particular, Glass teaches that a user requests a document such as "document 1" from the Web. The request that contains "document 1" is inputted to the browser. Therefore, "document 1" corresponds to a keyword. After that "document 2" is also another

keyword, when the user tries to retrieve it. The user is notified if the
file is not found, and the browser automatically generates a message
to send to the server (fig. 3, step 340).
Glass does not clearly teach that the system will 'automatically deleting the Web
page from the search engine indices in response to receiving the notification".
Glass teaches that the server will modify the broken link in order to restore the
link.
However, Jakob Nielson discloses a retrieving information system that allows a
user view a website at a remote server (col. 8, lines 7-8). As seen in Fig. 4B,
a URL list is generated and the system attempts to connect with a website server.
The system has a capability of deleting the URL if an error occurs (col. 8, lines
65-col. 9, lines 3). One with skill in the art would recognize that the list could be
represented as an index in the search engine.
It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the
invention was made to modify the system of Glass by applying the teaching of
Nielson for deleting the web page if not found because the combination would
reduce the time/cost searching for other user in later time.

Office Action dated June 21, 2004, pages 2-3.

Claim 1, as amended, is as follows:

1.   A method in a data processing system for pruning search engine indices,
the method comprising:
        receiving a notification by a search engine from a client browser that a
Web page retrieval error occurred for a Web page or that the Web page no longer
contains selected keywords; and
        automatically deleting the Web page from the search engine indices in
response to receiving the notification.

Initially, neither Glass et al. nor Jakob Nielson discloses or suggests a method
"for pruning search engine indices" as indicated by the Examiner. Furthermore, neither
Glass et al. nor Jakob Nielson, considered alone or in combination, discloses or suggests
"automatically deleting the Web page from the search engine indices" in response to
"receiving a notification by a search engine from a client browser that a Web page
retrieval error occurred for a Web page or that the Web page no longer contains selected
keywords" as required by claim 1.

Glass et al. (hereinafter Glass) discloses a technique to provide information to a user about the status of information links, such as hypertext links, found in network-based documents. In Glass, a user downloads a document 1 that contains a hypertext link to a document 2. The user then attempts to retrieve document 2, for example, by double clicking on the link, and an attempt is made to connect with the server where document 2 is located. If document 2 is not available, the link is considered broken. If the link is broken, a mechanism is provided to change the presentation of document 2 on document 1 to indicate that there is a broken link to document 2. The presentation can be changed by changing the color of the HTML code associated with the information link, by putting an icon before and/or after the information link, or the like (see col. 5, lines 48-57).

In Glass, there is no notification from a client browser "to a search engine" that a Web page retrieval error has occurred for a Web page or that the Web page no longer contains selected keywords. Instead, in Glass, it is the client browser that is notified of a Web page retrieval error.

The Examiner refers to step 340 in **Figure 3** of Glass as disclosing "receiving a notification from a client browser that a Web page retrieval error occurred for a Web page or that the Web page no longer contains selected keywords". Col. 5, lines 12-19 of Glass reads as follows:

> The network address of the user (or client) which receives the file not found error message is placed in the source address field of the message format of **Fig. 4** (330). Then a broken link message is sent to the site which originated the page containing the broken link (340). Preferably, broken link information is concurrently stored in a broken link database such as that shown in **FIG. 6.**

This recitation does not disclose that a notification is received by a search engine from a client browser that a Web page retrieval error occurred for a Web page or that the Web page no longer contains selected keywords as is required in claim 1.

As recognized by the Examiner, Glass also does not disclose "automatically deleting the Web page from the search engine indices in response to receiving the notification" as recited in claim 1. The Examiner indicates, however, that Jakob Nielson

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(hereinafter Nielson) discloses a capability of deleting a URL if an error occurs, and refers to col. 8, line 65 to col. 9, line 3 of Nielson as disclosing this feature.

Col. 8, line 65 to col. 9, line 3 of Nielson reads as follows:

> Upon completion of the parsing operation, the system 2 reads each URL in the URL list 30 and attempts to connect to the website identified in the URL through the Internet 50. This is done by issuing the HTTP GET command, with the URL as an argument. If the domain name of the server included in the URL is not listed in the DNS, or if no server at the URL responds within a pre-determined timeout period (such as 30 seconds), an error condition is raised and the URL is deleted from the URL list 30.

Nielson is directed to capturing information from a broadcast signal for later use. In particular, Nielson is concerned with a broadcast signal that identifies a URL that a viewer may want to later access. Nielson recognizes that the viewer may not have time to write down the URL for future use, and provides a mechanism for storing an image from the broadcast signal that contains the URL so that it may be later retrieved.

In Nielson, a list of several strings of text, that might be a URL, may be recognized from a video image, and a list of such URLs is generated by the system. The system reads the URLs from the list and attempts to connect to the website. If the domain name does not exist or if no server responds, the URL is deleted from the list.

In Nielson, URLs are deleted from a list that is created by the system to identify and store URLs of interest to a viewer of a video broadcast. There is no deletion of a Web page from a search engine in response to "receiving a notification by a search engine from a client browser that a Web page retrieval error occurred for a Web page or that the Web page no longer contains selected keywords". Accordingly, combining Glass with Nielson would not achieve the present invention as proposed by the Examiner.

There is also no suggestion in either Glass or Nielson to combine the references as proposed by the Examiner. In fact, it is believed that Glass actually teaches away from the Examiner's proposed combination.

In combining the references, the Examiner states that it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Glass by applying the teaching of Nielson for deleting the web page if not

found because the combination would reduce the time/cost searching for other user in later time. Applicant submits, however, that one of ordinary skill in the art, having both Glass and Nielson before him would never consider modifying Glass to automatically delete a Web page from a search engine simply because the user is not able to access the Web page from a hypertext link in a document.

In particular, the objective in Glass is to provide a mechanism to advise a user that downloads a document 1 that a link in document 1 to a document 2 is broken. If the link is later repaired, the user is so advised. There is no communication with the server of a search engine containing the Web page for document 2, and there is certainly no mechanism for deleting the Web page from the search engine.

In combining the references, the Examiner is presuming that the broken connection is not repairable and also presumes that the Web page cannot be accessed by the user or by other users via routes that are not broken. The Examiner also assumes that a user has a right to automatically delete a Web page of another party simply because the user is unable to access the Web page through a particular link. It would be very presumptuous for any user of a search engine to be able to delete a Web site from the search engine simply because the user is unable to access the Website from a link in a document.

Thus, in summary, there is no reasonable basis for combining the references as proposed by the Examiner, and, in addition, even if the references were combined as proposed by the Examiner, the combination would not teach or suggest the present invention. Claim 1, accordingly, is allowable over Glass in view of Nielson, and it is respectfully requested that the Examiner so find.

Claims 2-6 depend from and further restrict claim 1 and are also allowable in their present form, at least by virtue of their dependency.

Independent claim 8 has been amended in a similar manner as claim 1 and contains limitations generally similar to claim 1. Claim 8, accordingly, should also be allowable in its present form, together with claims 9-12 dependent thereon, for substantially the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Independent claim 13 is as follows:

13.   A method in a data processing system for removing a faulty entry from an index of Web pages, the method comprising:
        receiving a result from a server, wherein the result includes links to Web pages corresponding to a search request;
        requesting a Web page identified by a link in the links in response to a user input selecting the link; and
        sending a notification to the server in response to an error occurring in retrieving the Web page.

For substantially the same reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1, neither Glass nor Nielson nor their combination teaches or suggests a method for removing a faulty entry from an index of Web pages that includes "sending a notification to the server in response to an error occurring in retrieving the Web page" as recited in claim 13. Claim 13, accordingly, should also be allowable in its present form together with claims 14 and 15 dependent thereon.

Independent claims 20, 21, 43 and 44 have been amended in a similar manner as claim 1. Independent claims 20, 21, 22, 24, 31, 36 and 43-45 recite limitations generally similar to claims 1 and 13, and should also be allowable in their present form for similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claims 1 and 13. Claims 25-30, 32-35, 37 and 38 depend from and further restrict one of claims 24, 31 and 36 and should also be allowable, at least by virtue of their dependency.

Therefore, the rejection of claims 1-15, 20-22, 24-38 and 43-45 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 has been overcome.

Rejection of claims 16-19, 23, 39-42 and 46 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Glass et al. and Jakob Nielson, and further in view of Li et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,631,496).

In rejecting claims 16-19, 23, 39-42 and 46, the Examiner states:

        The combination of Glass and Nielson fails to disclose a system for managing a set of bookmarks for browser. However, it is well known in the art, that a user can bookmark an URL for querying in the future. An example is provided by Li et al. Li discloses a system for personalizing and

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managing web information that includes a hypermedia database for managing bookmark, which allows a user to organize hypertext documents for querying (see the abstract of Li).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to bookmark an URL for later use because it allows the user the capability of managing favorite information without remember it.

Office Action dated June 21, 2004, page 5.

Independent claim 16, as amended herein, is as follows:

16.   A method in a data processing system for managing a set of bookmarks for a browser, the method comprising:
sending a request for a Web page in response to a selection of a bookmark from the set of bookmarks, wherein the bookmark is associated with the Web page;
determining whether an error has occurred in retrieving the Web page; and
removing the bookmark in response to determining that an error has occurred in retrieving the Web page.

Li et al. (hereinafter Li) discloses a hypermedia database for managing bookmarks so that a user can organize hypertext documents for various purposes. Li does not disclose removing a bookmark "in response to determining that an error has occurred in retrieving the Web page", and does not supply the deficiencies in Glass and Nielson as discussed above. Claim 16, accordingly, should be allowable in its present form, and it is respectfully requested that the Examiner so find.

Claims 17-19 depend from and further restrict claim 16 and should also be allowable in their present form, at least by virtue of their dependency.

Independent claims 23, 39 and 46, and dependent claims 40-42, as amended, patentably distinguish over the references for substantially the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 16, and should also be allowable in their present form.

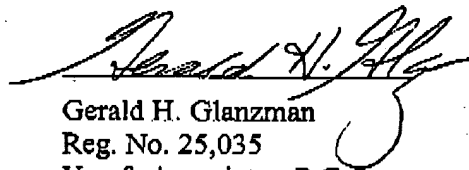Therefore, the rejection of claims 16-19, 23, 39-42 and 46 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 has been overcome.

II. Conclusion

For all the above reasons, it is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over Glass in view of Nielson and Glass in view of Nielson and Li and is now in condition for allowance. It is, accordingly, respectfully requested that the Examiner so find and issue a Notice of Allowance in due course.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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